

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled).

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of respiratory therapy comprising the steps of:
providing a pressure-assisted breathing system having a pressure-generating circuit and a respiratory circuit adapted to be coupled to a patient interface device, wherein the pressure-generating circuit contains a first gas flow of sufficiently high-volume to maintain positive pressure in the system and wherein the respiratory circuit contains a second gas flow of lower volume than the first gas flow;

engaging the patient interface device with the patient's respiratory system; and

introducing an aerosolized medicament into the second gas flow, by a vibrating aperture nebulizer coupled to the respiratory circuit, wherein the nebulizer is positioned and configured in close proximity to the patient interface device, to avoid dilution of the aerosolized medicament that is delivered to the patient's respiratory system.

21. (WITHDRAWN) A method according to claim 20 wherein the aerosolized medicament is introduced by a vibrating aperture-type nebulizer into coupled to the respiratory circuit.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21 wherein the nebulizer comprises a reservoir having a capacity equal to one unit dose of medicament and substantially all of the contents of the reservoir is delivered to the patient's respiratory system.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22 wherein the dose is 4 ml or less of medicament.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of delivering a surfactant to a patient's respiratory system which comprises the steps of:

providing a CPAP system having a pressure-generating circuit with a first gas flow of sufficiently high volume to maintain continuous positive airway pressure in the

system, a respiratory circuit connecting the pressure-generating circuit to a patient interface device, wherein the respiratory circuit contains a second gas flow of lower volume than said first gas flow, and a vibrating ~~aperture-type~~ aperture nebulizer coupled to the respiratory circuit at a distance from the patient interface device sufficient to provide an acceptable efficiency of delivering a liquid surfactant to the patient's respiratory system in close proximity to the patient interface device;

introducing ~~at~~ the liquid surfactant into the nebulizer;

aerosolizing the surfactant in the nebulizer ; and

entraining the aerosolized surfactant into the second gas flow of the respiratory circuit to avoid dilution of the aerosolized surfactant delivered to the patient.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the surfactant is a phospholipid.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein 6-18% of the aerosolized surfactant introduced into the system is delivered to the patient.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the nebulizer comprises a reservoir having a capacity substantially equal one unit dose of surfactant and substantially all of the contents of the reservoir is delivered to the patient.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the dose is equal to 10 mg or less of surfactant.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the patient interface device is selected from the group consisting of nasal prongs, an oral/nasal mask, a nasal mask, nasopharyngeal prongs, a nasopharyngeal tube, a tracheotomy tube, an endotracheal tube and a mouthpiece.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the patient interface device is an endotracheal tube.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein a volume of medicament delivered is sufficient for one treatment.